Report to Dearness Home Committee of Management

To: **Chair and Members**
Dearness Home Committee of Management
From: **Kevin Dickins, Deputy City Manager, Social and Health Development**
Subject: **2023-2024 Long-Term Care Home Service Accountability Agreement between the Corporation of the City of London (Dearness Home) and Ontario Health, Declaration of Compliance 2025**
Date: **March 3, 2026**

Recommendation

That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Housing, Social Services and Dearness Home;

a) the Deputy City Manager, Social and Health Development **BE AUTHORIZED** on behalf of the Dearness Home Committee of Management to execute the Declaration of Compliance (substantially in the form of "Schedule E - Form of Compliance Declaration" **attached** as Schedule 1) under the Long-Term Care Home Service Accountability Agreement for the reporting period of January 1 to December 31, 2025; and

b) the Deputy City Manager, Social and Health Development **BE DIRECTED** to advise the Licensee that the Declaration of Compliance has been made.

Executive Summary

It was a requirement of the *Local Health System Integration Act, 2006* that a Local Heath Integration Network (LHIN) have a service accountability agreement (SAA) in place with each Health Service Provider (HSP) that it funds. The SAA for the long-term care sector is called the Long-Term Care Home Service Accountability Agreement (L-SAA). On March 26, 2019, Council approved a three year L-SAA agreement with the South West LHIN for the Dearness Home for the period April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2022.

On March 17, 2021, the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, issued a series of orders transferring the Local Health Integration Networks' (LHINs') health system planning and funding functions to Ontario Health, an agency of the Province. Accordingly, as of April 1, 2021, Ontario Health assumed all rights and obligations in respect of the service accountability agreements entered into by South West LHIN with the Corporation of the City of London. Aside from the assumption of these agreements by Ontario Health, all of their terms and conditions remained the same.

On March 24th 2023 Ontario Health West provided a new 2023-2024 L-SAA agreement. On May 2nd 2023 Council approved the L-SAA agreement with Ontario Health for the Dearness Home for the period April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024.

On March13, 2024, Ontario Health West wrote to the Mayor to provide notice that the 2023-2024 L-SAA would be extended to March 31st, 2025. They also asked that The Corporation of the City of London accept and agree by signing and returning the Extending Letter. Subsequently, as allowed under Document Execution By-law A-1, the Extending letter was signed by the Acting Mayor and the City Clerk and returned to Ontario Health West.

On February 13, 2025, Ontario Health West wrote to the Mayor to provide notice that the 2023-2024 L-SAA would be extended once more, to March 31st, 2026. Subsequently, as allowed under Document Execution By-law A-1, the Extending letter was signed by the Acting Mayor and the City Clerk to accept and agree to the extension.

The 2023-2024 L-SAA sets out the terms under which Ontario Health will continue to provide funding to the City of London for the delivery of Long Term Care services at Dearness Home. It also confirms the reporting, performance, planning and health system integration obligations that the City must adhere to.

Within the L-SAA is also the requirement that the "Board" (defined in the agreement as the Committee of Management) issue a Compliance Declaration. The Form of the Declaration of Compliance follows (and see attached Schedule 1):

> *The Board has authorized me, by resolution dated [insert date], to declare to you as follows:*
> *After making inquiries of the [insert name and position of person responsible for managing the Home on a day to day basis, e.g. the Chief Executive Office or the Executive Director] and other appropriate officers of the HSP and subject to any exceptions identified on Appendix 1 to this Declaration of Compliance, to the best of the Board's knowledge and belief, the HSP has fulfilled, its obligations under the long-term care service accountability agreement (the "Agreement") in effect during the Applicable Period.*
> *Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the HSP confirms that*
> *(i)* *it has complied with the provisions of* the Connecting Care Act, 2019 *and with any compensation restraint legislation which applies to the HSP; and*
> *(ii)* *every Report submitted by the HSP is accurate in all respects and in full compliance with the terms of the Agreement;*
> *Unless otherwise defined in this declaration, capitalized terms have the same meaning as set out in the Agreement.*

Analysis

1.0 Background Information

1.1 Previous Reports Related to this Matter

- 2023-2024 Long-Term Care Home Service Accountability Agreement between the Corporation of the City of London (Dearness Home) and Ontario Health, Declaration of Compliance 2024 (DHCOM May 6, 2025)
- 2023-2024 Long-Term Care Home Service Accountability Agreement between the Corporation of the City of London (Dearness Home) and Ontario Health, Declaration of Compliance 2023 (DHCOM February 27, 2024)
- 2023-2024 Long-Term Care Home Service Accountability Agreement between the Corporation of the City of London (Dearness Home) and Ontario Health (CPSC – May 2, 2023)
- 2019-2022 Long-Term Care Home Service Accountability Agreement between the Corporation of the City of London (Dearness Home) and Ontario Health, Declaration of Compliance 2022 (DHCOM February 22, 2022).
- 2019-2022 Long-Term Care Home Service Accountability Agreement between the Corporation of the City of London (Dearness Home) and the South West Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) Declaration of Compliance 2020 (DHCOM February 17, 2021).
- 2019-2022 Long-Term Care Home Service Accountability Agreement between the Corporation of the City of London (Dearness Home) and the South West Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) Declaration of Compliance 2019 (DHCOM February 11, 2020).

- 2019-2022 Service Accountability Agreement Between the Corporation of the City of London (Dearness Home) and the South West Local Health Integration Network (LHIN)
  (CPSC – March 19, 2019).

2.0 Discussion and Considerations

2.1 Confirmation of Compliance

With respect to the L-SAA agreement 2023-2024, the Director of Dearness Home has confirmed that during the reporting period, January 1 to December 31, 2025, Dearness Home has complied with all terms of the L-SAA agreement.

The Director also confirms that Dearness Home has complied with the provisions of the Connecting Care Act, 2019 and with any compensation restraint legislation which applies to the HSP; and every Report submitted by the HSP is accurate in all respects and in full compliance with the terms of the Agreement.

Conclusion

As a result, it is recommended that the Deputy City Manager, Social and Health Development be authorized by the Dearness Home Committee of Management (Board) to execute the Declaration of Compliance for the Dearness Home for Senior Citizens for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2025. It is also recommended that the Deputy City Manager, Social and Health Development be directed to advise the Licensee of the completion of the Declaration of Compliance. The Licensee for the Dearness Home is The Corporation of the City of London. The notice of completion of the Declaration will be provided to City Council, through the Clerk's office.

Prepared and Submitted by: Leslie Hancock, Director, Dearness Home
Recommended by: Kevin Dickins, Deputy City Manager, Social and Health Development

cc. S. Arcese, Financial Business Administrator
L. Marshall, Legal Counsel
J. Wills, Manager, Risk Management
L. Hancock, Director, Dearness Home

Schedule E – Form of Compliance Declaration

DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE

To: **The Board of Directors** of Ontario Health Attn: Board Chair.

From: **The Committee of Management** (the "Board") of the Corporation of the City of London] (the "HSP")

For: Dearness Home for Seniors] (the "Home")

Date: March 03, 2026]

Re: January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025 (the "Applicable Period")

Unless otherwise defined in this Declaration of Compliance, capitalized terms have the same meaning as set out in the Long-Term Care Home Service Accountability Agreement between Ontario Health and the HSP in effect during the Applicable Period (the "Agreement").

The Board has authorized me, by resolution dated March 03, 2026], to declare to you as follows:

After making inquiries of the [the Administrator of the Home, Leslie Hancock, and the Deputy City Manager, Social and Health Development, Kevin Dickins,] and other appropriate officers of the HSP and subject to any exceptions identified on Appendix 1 to this Declaration of Compliance, to the best of the [Board's] knowledge and belief, the HSP has fulfilled, its obligations under the Agreement during the Applicable Period.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the HSP confirms that:

(i) it has complied with the provisions of the *Connecting Care Act, 2019* and with any compensation restraint legislation which applies to the HSP; and

(ii) every Report submitted by the HSP is accurate in all respects and in full compliance with the terms of the Agreement.

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Signature

Kevin Dickins, Deputy City Manager, Social and Health Development

Appendix 1 - Exceptions

Schedule E – Form of Compliance Declaration

[Please identify each obligation under the LSAA that the HSP did not meet during the Applicable Period, together with an explanation as to why the obligation was not met and an estimated date by which the HSP expects to be in compliance.]